



HUMAN RESOURCES

TO: Agency Personnel Administrators

FROM: Michael Barletta, Workers' Compensation Administrator

RE: Automated Workers' Compensation System (AWCS)

DATE: July 3, 1997

Effective October 1, 1997, the DAS Automated Workers' Compensation System will be totally integrated with the next Third Party Administrator's on-line system. All workers' compensation claims processing and claim data retrieval will occur electronically, on-line, system to system. As a result effective October 1, 1997 it will be mandatory that all state agencies utilize AWCS to process employee workers' compensation claims. The current paper process still utilized by many agencies will no longer be acceptable to the next claims administration vendor except as a true emergency process. All agencies not currently using AWCS or any agencies wishing to refine AWCS skill sets will need to contact either Bill Donnelly or Cheryl Welton at 566-2466 to arrange for training prior to October 1, 1997.

Efforts are also underway to incorporate a 48 hour 'automatic approval of claim information' enhancement feature into AWCS. This enhancement will greatly improve the speed with which information is processed to the claims/managed care administrator allowing for the claims adjusters and managed medical care representatives to efficiently begin their three point contact process and early intervention. This automatic approval process will only assure prompt processing of claim information and is not an endorsement of a claim.

Please distribute to your workers' compensation liaisons. Thank you.

Michael Barletta, Workers' Compensation Administrator

Department of Administrative Services

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